

## GLOSSARY

**Albite** — a widely distributed, rock-forming mineral.

**Alluvial** — of or relating to river and stream deposits.

**Analcime** — a mineral found in the cavities of intrusive and volcanic igneous rocks; often as clear shiny crystals.

**Anthropogenic** — changes that humans have introduced to the environment.

**Aquiclude** — a saturated but poorly permeable underground bed, formation, or group of formations that impedes groundwater movement and does not yield water freely to a well or spring. An aquiclude may, however, transmit appreciable water to or from adjacent aquifers, and where sufficiently thick, may constitute an important groundwater storage unit.

**Aquifer** — a geological formation or group of formations or part of a formation that is capable of yielding a significant amount of water to a well or spring.

**Biota** — the plants and animals of a specific region or period, or the total aggregation of organisms in the biosphere.

**Brackish** — partially saline water.

**Brownfield** — real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

**Chloride water** — water to which chlorine has been applied to disinfect or to oxidize undesirable compounds.

**Climax forest** — the final stage of succession in a forest ecosystem. Also, a forest community that reached a steady state under a particular set of environmental conditions.

**Common reed** — the common name for the invasive grass *Phragmites australis*, which grows in certain wetlands.

**Detrital** — relating to debris or waste material, usually organic, such as dead or partially decayed plants and animals, often important as a source of nutrients; or, small particles of minerals from weathered rock, such as sand or silt.

## Glossary

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**Diabase intrusions** — intrusions of magma which were emplaced between the sedimentary layers of rock, forming the Palisades Sill, Granton Sill, and Snake Hill.

**Diabase rock** — a fine grained, dark colored igneous rock. It commonly occurs as tabular bodies (dikes and sills) intruded into surrounding rocks. The Palisades of the Hudson River, near New York City, are an example.

**Diadromous fish**—fish that migrate between freshwater and saltwater. Only one percent of all fish in the world are diadromous.

**Drawdown** — lowering of the ground-water surface caused by pumping, measured as the difference between the original ground-water level and the current pumping level after a period of pumping.

**Ecotone** — an edge or border zone between different habitats usually with high diversity of species.

**Estuary** — any confined coastal water body with a connection to the sea and measurable quantity of marine salt in the waters (greater than 0.5 parts per thousand).

**Flood hazard (floodplain)** — an area that has a 1 percent chance of being flooded in any given year (100-year floodplain).

**Floodway** — that portion of the available flow cross section that cannot be obstructed without causing an increase in the water-surface elevations resulting from a flood with a 100 year average return period of more than a given amount. The Federal Emergency Management Agency establishes the amount to be 1.0 ft.

**Flood zone** — a geographical area shown on the Flood Hazard Boundary Map or Flood Insurance Rate Map that reflects the severity or type of flooding in the area.

**Flushed** — the replacement of the water in a water body.

**Freshwater meadow** — a freshwater wetland area dominated by herbaceous vegetation.

**Forb** — an herbaceous plant which is not a grass.

**Forested wetland** — a wetland class where the soil is saturated and often inundated, and woody plants taller than 20 feet form the dominant cover, e.g. red maple, American elm, and tamarack; water tolerant shrubs often form a second layer beneath the forest canopy, with a layer of herbaceous plants growing beneath the shrubs.

**Freddie Mac** — a stockholder-owned corporation chartered by Congress in 1970 to create a continuous flow of funds to mortgage lenders in support of homeownership and rental housing.

**Glacial lake** — a lake formed by the collection of glacial meltwater behind a glacial moraine.

**Glacial scour** — a natural process in which bedrock is abraded, scratched, and polished, and surface material removed by rock fragments is carried by or embedded in a moving glacier.

**Glacial till** — a stiff unstratified deposit of clay mixed with sand, gravel and boulders, formed in a glacier valley by the waters derived from the melting glaciers.

**Glauberite** — a bitter, salty tasting mineral that dissolves slowly in water. It is a sedimentary mineral formed by the evaporation of saline water.

**Grayfield** — real property that is declining in use but with no contamination.

**Green infrastructure** — an interconnected network of natural areas, conservation lands, and other green spaces that support native species, maintain natural ecological processes, sustain air and water resources, and contribute to the health and quality of life for communities and people.

**Gross Domestic Product** — the total value of goods and services produced in a country over a period of time.

**Groundwater recharge** – the process whereby infiltrating rain, snowmelt or surface water enters and replenishes the groundwater stores.

**Habitat** — the place normally occupied by a particular organism.

**Hardwood forest** — a forest dominated by hardwood trees, such as oak, hickory, and maple.

**High salt marsh** — a salt marsh dominated by salt hay (*Spartina patens*), spike grass (*Distichilis spicata*) and black grass (*Juncus gerardi*). A high salt marsh is generally flooded on spring tides and/or storm tides only.

**Hydraulic connection** — a connection between two bodies of water (i.e., a stream channel or ditch).

**Hydrologic support** — support derived from the properties, distributions, or circulation of water.

**Impoundment** — a structure that obstructs natural water flow patterns for the purpose of forming a contained volume of water. Impoundments include dikes with sluice gates and other structures to control the flow of water.

**Infill development** — new construction activity occurring on vacant parcels located within an area which is predominantly developed.

**Infrastructure** — roads, utilities and other public uses and amenities that support property use.

## Glossary

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**Intermodal** — the transportation of goods and materials using more than one means of transportation from the point of manufacture to the final point of sale. Commonly used in discussing products imported by ship and rail, then transferred to truck for final delivery.

**Inter-tidal** — the area between high and low tide levels, twice daily exposed and flooded.

**Inter-tidal flats** — extensive areas between the mean high water line and mean low water line along tidal bayshores.

**Invasive species**— an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

**Key priority habitat** — area containing physical and biological features essential to, and that may require special management to provide for the conservation of the species involved.

**Lacustrine** — pertaining to, produced by, or formed in a lake.

**Landfill** — a disposal facility for solid wastes.

**Land use plan** — the element of a master plan or comprehensive plan that designates and justifies the future use or reuse of land.

**Leachate** — liquid that has passed through or emerged from solid waste and contains soluble, suspended or miscible materials removed from such wastes.

**Leaching** — undergoing the process by which materials in the soil are moved into a lower level of soil or are dissolved and carried through soil by water.

**Lithology** — the description of rocks on the basis of their physical and chemical characteristics.

**Logistics** — the common term for facilities that provide warehousing, distribution, and value-added services. Relates to intermodal services.

**Low salt marsh** — a salt marsh dominated by salt marsh cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*). A low salt marsh is generally flooded by both high tides daily.

**Mixed-use development** — a development that allows multiple compatible uses in close proximity to one another.

**Mount Laurel** — a series of New Jersey Supreme Court cases. The New Jersey Supreme Court established a constitutional obligation for each of the 566 municipalities in the state to establish a realistic opportunity for the provision of fair share low and moderate income housing obligations, generally through land use and zoning powers.

**Mudflat** — bare, flat bottoms of lakes, rivers and ponds, or coastal waters, largely filled with organic deposits, freshly exposed by a lowering of the water level; a broad expanse of muddy substrate commonly occurring in estuaries and bays.

**Multi-modal** — capable of accommodating a variety of transportation modes, such as buses, automobiles, rapid transit, rail, bicycles and pedestrians. A multi-modal transportation hub is a facility for the transfer of passengers and/or goods between different modes of transportation.

**Non-point source runoff/discharge** — surface water entering a channel from no definable discharge source.

**Old field** — a stage of ecological succession. Also, a field that has reached a steady state under a particular set of environmental conditions.

**Orphan landfill** — a landfill which is no longer in operation and which has no established fund to cover the cost of closure in an environmentally sound manner, such as capping, cutoff walls, leachate collection systems, and methane recovery systems.

**Passaic formation** — a body of rock characterized by a soft red shale with interbedded sandstone which is traceable in the subsurface and is the most common rock type in northeastern New Jersey. Formerly known as the Brunswick formation.

**Paratransit** — comparable transportation services required by the Americans with Disabilities Act for individuals with disabilities who are unable to use fixed route transportation systems.

**Passerine** — of or relating to the largest order (Passeriformes) of birds, which includes more than half of all living birds and consists primarily of perching songbirds, whose young are hatched in an immature and helpless condition.

**Permeable** — porous soil or rock that has the capacity to conduct or transmit fluids.

**Physiographic province** — broad-scale subdivision of the United States based on terrain texture, rock type, and geologic structure and history.

**Piedmont physiographic province** — a physiographic province located southeast of the New Jersey Highlands Physiographic. The Piedmont province encompasses one-fifth of the State of New Jersey. It is a lowland area made of primarily sedimentary rocks such as sandstones, siltstones, shale and conglomerate. Igneous rocks form the higher ridges, including diabase that composes the Palisades sill and basalts that compose the three Watchung Mountains.

**Point source** — a stationary source of a large individual emission, generally industrial in nature.

**Ponding** — forming a small water body with limited freshwater inflow and lack of tidal inundation.

## Glossary

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**Primary contact recreation** — water related recreational activities that involve significant ingestion risks and includes, but is not limited to, wading, swimming, diving, surfing, and water skiing.

**Priority wetlands** — wetlands identified by the US Environmental Protection Agency as the most vulnerable and important.

**Recolonize** — to colonize an area that has been disturbed or denuded.

**Redevelopment** — any proposed replacement of existing development.

**Regime** — a regular pattern of occurrence or action.

**Reliever** — a roadway designed to provide an alternate route for users of a heavily traveled road.

**Remnant habitats** — a small portion of what was once a widespread habitat.

**Revegetated** — an area previously disturbed or denuded where vegetation is growing.

**Rip-rap** — a general term for large, blocky stones that are artificially placed to stabilize and prevent erosion along a riverbank or shoreline.

**Secondary contact recreation** — recreational activities where the probability of water ingestion is minimal and includes, but is not limited to, boating and fishing.

**Semi-diurnal** — occurring twice in a 24-hour period.

**Sheet flow** — water that flows overland, as opposed to water that flows within a defined channel.

**Smart growth** — using comprehensive planning to guide, design, develop, revitalize and build communities for all that:

- Have a unique sense of community and place;
- Preserve and enhance valuable natural and cultural resources;
- Equitably distribute the costs and benefits of development;
- Expand the range of transportation, employment and housing choices in a fiscally responsible manner;
- Value long-range, regional considerations of sustainability over short term incremental geographically isolated actions; and
- Promote public health and healthy communities.

**Solution channel** — a pathway through rock or soil that permits the flow of water.

**Sprawl** — development that is low-density, automobile-dependent, and land-consumptive.

**Special Area Management Plan (SAMP)** — a draft environmental impact statement and plan which attempted to balance economic development with environmental preservation and enhancement. The plan identified areas for potential wetlands fill within the Meadowlands. The SAMP was never finalized and formally withdrawn from federal and state review processes in 2001.

**Strike (of the beds)** — the direction or trend of a bedding plane or fault (a fracture or zone of fractures in rocks of mappable size along which there has been displacement of one side relative to the other) , as it intersects the horizontal.

**Successional** — plant species or vegetative community which will be successively replaced by more stable communities.

**Surface water** — water present above the substrate or soil surface; an open body of water such as a lake, river, or stream.

**Terminal moraine** — a ridgelike accumulation of drift built chiefly along the terminal margin of a valley glacier or the margin of an ice sheet. It is mainly the result of deposition by ice, or deformation by ice thrust, or both.

**Terrestrial habitat** — living on land, as opposed to marine or aquatic.

**Tidal flow** — flow caused by the rising and falling of the tide.

**Udorthent series** — disturbed native soils (fill) typical of industrial and parking lot areas.

**Unique habitat** — a habitat type that is not commonly found within an area.

**Upland** — any area that does not qualify as a wetland because the associated hydrologic regime is not sufficiently wet to elicit development of vegetation, soils, and/or hydrologic characteristics associated with wetlands.

**Value Added** — the process of increasing the value of goods and products through final assembly, customization, and packaging. Used in the intermodal industry to increase the value of imported goods.

**Watershed** — an area or a region that is bordered by a divide and from which water drains to a particular watercourse or body of water.

**Water quality standards**—a legally established state regulation consisting of three parts: (1) designated uses, (2) criteria, and (3) antidegradation policy

**Wellhead groundwater recharge area** — the entire area of land that allows water and other fluids to flow into the subsurface and move toward the well.

## **Glossary**

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**Wetland** — a general term applied to land which is transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems and which contain at least one of three key attributes: predominantly wetland vegetation (hydrophytes); hydric soils; and/or saturation or inundation by surface or ground water at some time during the growing season each year

**Woody plant community** — a plant community dominated by woody vegetation (i.e., trees and shrubs).



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